

Appl. No. 10/552,540
Amdt. Dated February 19, 2008
Reply to Office Action of November 16, 2007

Attorney Docket No. 81844.0044
Customer No. 26021

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 16, 2007. Claims 1-5 and 7-42 remain in this application. Claims 1, 7-10 and 23, and 32 are the independent Claims. Claims 24-42 have been amended. It is believed that no new matter is involved in the amendments or arguments presented herein. Reconsideration and entrance of the amendment in the application are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

On page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 1-5 and 7-23 were indicated as allowable over the prior art.

Applicant thanks the Examiner and formally recognizes the allowed Claims 1-5 and 7-23.

Claim Objections

Claims 24-42 were objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75, as being in improper dependent form. In response, Applicant has amended Claims 24-42 to address the concern expressed in the Office Action.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the above objection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments comply with requirements of form and thus may be admitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b). Alternatively, if these amendments are deemed to touch the merits, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(c). In this connection, these amendments were not earlier presented because they are in response to the matters pointed out for the first time in the Final Office Action.

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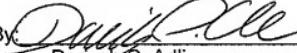
Lastly, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b) as presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (310) 785-4721 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: February 19, 2008
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